

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BELGRA 04569 101545Z

50

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 NEA-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CCO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-15 NIC-01 AF-10 DRC-01 SAJ-01 ARA-16 EA-11 USSS-00

/181 W

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P R 101510Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7495

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL ZAGREB UNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BELGRADE 4569

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR YO UR XF

SUBJECT: SOVIET DIPLOMAT'S STATEMENTS ON MIDDLE EAST WAR

1. SOVIET FIRST SECRETARY ANATOLIY SOKOLOV (WHO DESCRIBE HIM-SELF AS ECONOMIC OFFICER) CALLED ON CANADIAN FIRST SECRETARY GOOCH ON OCTOBER 7 AND MADE FOLLOWING POINTS, WHICH HE REPEATED TO MAKE SURE THE MESSAGE CLEAR:

A. SOVIETS KNEW THAT EGYPTIANS AND SYRIANS HAD VIOLATED CEASE FIRE. THEY DID NOT KNOW OF IT IN ADVANCE NOR DO THEY APPROVE.

B. RENEWED OUTBREAK HOSTILITIES REPRESENT "DANGEROUS AND DELICATE" SITUATION FOR SOVIETS.

C. SOVIETS ADVISORS HAVE BEEN WITHDRAWN IN PAST TWO DAYS FROM EGYPT AND SYRIA.

2. GOOCH SUBSEQUENTLY DETERMINED THAT SOKOLOV ALSO CALLED ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TURKISH, NORWEGIAN, CANADIAN AND FRG EMBASSIES WITH SAME

MESSAGE OCTOBER 7 AND 8. (FRG EMB REPORTS SOKOLOV ALSO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT NATO COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY THOSE NEAREST CONFLICT, WOULD EXERCISE RESTRAINT) EMBASSY HAS ALSO CONFIRMED THIS AND THAT SOVIETS TO DATE HAVE NOT FORMALLY APPROACHED BRITISH, BELGIAN, FRENCH AUSTRALIAN OR ITALIAN EMBASSIES HERE ON SUBJECT OF MIDDLE EAST WAR. THUS NO CLEAR PATTERN FOR SOKOLOV'S INITIATIVE APPARENT.

3. EMBASSY WOULD BE INTERESTED LEARN IF SOVIETS MAKING SIMILAR STATEMENTS ELSEWHERE. REALIZE NOT TOO MUCH SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO BELGRADE APPROACHES AT FIRST SECRETARY LEVEL. (FYI, EMBASSY HAS NO BIOGRAPHIC INFO ON SOKOLOV).
TOON

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Message Attributes

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